

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/CH 03/00841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61M1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 536 180 A (JOHNSON GERALD W) 20 August 1985 (1985-08-20) column 4, line 28 - line 30 column 3, line 62 - column 4, line 53; figure 1	1,2
X	US 6 129 701 A (CIMINO WILLIAM W) 10 October 2000 (2000-10-10) column 9, line 27 - line 45; figure 7	1,9,10
A	US 4 735 606 A (DAVISON THOMAS W) 5 April 1988 (1988-04-05) column 6, line 17 - line 29; figure 1	1
A	US 5 738 656 A (WAGNER WOLFGANG) 14 April 1998 (1998-04-14) cited in the application abstract; figure 4	1,3,6,7

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search	Date of mailing of the International search report
30 July 2004	06/08/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Lakkis, A

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: **11-16**
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 4536180	A	20-08-1985	NONE			
US 6129701	A	10-10-2000	AU WO US US	1738000 A 0029045 A1 6379326 B1 6540713 B1		05-06-2000 25-05-2000 30-04-2002 01-04-2003
US 4735606	A	05-04-1988	NONE			
US 5738656	A	14-04-1998	DE AT DE DE WO EP	4306478 A1 159176 T 9321589 U1 59404352 D1 9420152 A1 0692987 A1		08-09-1994 15-11-1997 26-10-2000 20-11-1997 15-09-1994 24-01-1996